Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously) A primary battery, comprising:

a cathode comprising

an oxide containing an alkali metal and pentavalent bismuth, the alkali metal being lithium or potassium, and

an electrochemically active cathode material different from the oxide;

an anode;

a separator between the cathode and the anode; and

an alkaline electrolyte.

2. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the oxide comprises a material selected from the group consisting of $MBiO_3$, M_3BiO_4, M_7BiO_6, $M_4Bi_2O_7$, and $M_5Bi_3O_{10}$, where M is Li or K.

3. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the oxide comprises an electrically conductive portion.

4. (Original) The battery of claim 3, wherein the electrically conductive portion is an electrically conductive surface coating comprising carbon or a metal oxide.

5. (Original) The battery of claim 4, wherein the electrically conductive surface coating comprises a material selected from the group consisting of graphite, carbon black, acetylene black, cobalt oxide, cobalt oxyhydroxide, silver oxide, silver nickel oxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, and indium oxide.

6. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the anode comprises zinc.

7. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the electrolyte comprises lithium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, or potassium hydroxide.

8. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the separator is capable of preventing soluble bismuth species from diffusing from the cathode to the anode.

9. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the separator is capable of trapping soluble bismuth species.

10. (Previously Presented) A primary battery, comprising:
a cathode comprising
an oxide containing an alkaline earth metal and pentavalent bismuth, and
an electrochemically active cathode material different from the oxide;
an anode;
a separator between the cathode and the anode; and
an alkaline electrolyte.

11. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the alkaline earth metal is selected from the group consisting of magnesium, calcium, strontium, and barium.

12. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 10, wherein the oxide comprises a material selected from the group consisting of $MgBi_2O_6$, $SrBi_2O_6$, $Sr_2Bi_2O_7$, $LiSr_3BiO_6$, $NaSr_3BiO_6$, $(Ba,K)BiO_3$, $(Sr,K)BiO_3$, $Li_2Ba_5Bi_2O_{11}$, and $Ba_2Bi_2O_6$.

13. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the oxide comprises an electrically conductive portion.

14. (Original) The battery of claim 13, wherein the electrically conductive portion is an electrically conductive surface coating comprising carbon or a metal oxide.

15. (Original) The battery of claim 14, wherein the electrically conductive surface coating comprises a material selected from the group consisting of graphite, carbon black, acetylene black, cobalt oxide, cobalt oxyhydroxide, silver oxide, silver nickel oxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, and indium oxide.

16. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the oxide comprises cobalt oxyhydroxide and $MgBi_2O_6$.

17. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the anode comprises zinc.

18. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the electrolyte comprises lithium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, or potassium hydroxide.

19. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the oxide further comprises an alkali metal.

20. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the separator is capable of preventing soluble bismuth species from diffusing from the cathode to the anode.

21. (Original) The battery of claim 10, wherein the separator is capable of trapping soluble bismuth species.

22. (Currently Amended) A primary battery, comprising:
a cathode comprising
an oxide containing a metal and pentavalent bismuth, the metal being a main group metal~~, a lanthanide~~ or a transition metal, other than silver, and
an electrochemically active cathode material different from the oxide;
an anode;
a separator between the cathode and the anode; and
an alkaline electrolyte.

23. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 22, wherein the transition metal is selected from the group consisting of scandium, vanadium, manganese, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc, yttrium, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, ruthenium, palladium, cadmium, tantalum, and tungsten.

24. (Currently Amended) The battery of claim 22, wherein the transition metal is a lanthanide ~~metal is~~ selected from the group consisting of lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, europium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium, erbium, thulium, and ytterbium.

25. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of indium, tin, antimony, and lead.

26. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the oxide further comprises an alkali metal or an alkaline earth metal.

27. (Currently Amended) The battery of claim 22, wherein the oxide comprises a material selected from the group consisting of $ZnBi_2O_6$, $Cu_2Bi_2O_7$, $CdBi_2O_6$, ~~$Ag_{25}Bi_3O_{18}$~~, Ba_2YBiO_6, Ba_2LaBiO_6, Sr_2NdBiO_6, Ba_2InBiO_6, $Ba(Bi,Pb)O_3$, $Sr_{18}Ru_{1.9}Bi_{4.1}O_{33}$, $Li_8PdBi_2O_{10}$, and Sr_2ScBiO_6.

28. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the oxide comprises an electrically conductive portion.

29. (Original) The battery of claim 28, wherein the electrically conductive portion is an electrically conductive surface coating comprising carbon or a metal oxide.

30. (Original) The battery of claim 29, wherein the electrically conductive surface coating comprises a material selected from the group consisting of graphite, carbon black,

acetylene black, cobalt oxide, cobalt oxyhydroxide, silver oxide, silver nickel oxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, and indium oxide.

31. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the oxide comprises cobalt oxyhydroxide and $ZnBi_2O_6$.

32. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the anode comprises zinc.

33. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the electrolyte comprises lithium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, or potassium hydroxide.

34. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the separator is capable of preventing soluble bismuth species from diffusing from the cathode to the anode.

35. (Original) The battery of claim 22, wherein the separator is capable of trapping soluble bismuth species.

36-41. (Cancelled).

42. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material is selected from the group consisting of manganese dioxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, AgO, $AgNiO_2$, and $AgCoO_2$.

43. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material comprises manganese dioxide.

44. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material comprises nickel oxyhydroxide.

45. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 10, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material is selected from the group consisting of manganese dioxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, AgO, $AgNiO_2$, and $AgCoO_2$.

46. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 10, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material comprises manganese dioxide.

47. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 10, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material comprises nickel oxyhydroxide.

48. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 10, wherein the oxide comprises $MgBi_2O_6$, and the electrochemically active cathode material comprises nickel oxyhydroxide.

49. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 22, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material is selected from the group consisting of manganese dioxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, AgO, $AgNiO_2$, and $AgCoO_2$.

50. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 22, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material comprises manganese dioxide.

51. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 22, wherein the electrochemically active cathode material comprises nickel oxyhydroxide.

52. (Cancelled).

53. (Previously Presented) A primary battery, comprising:
a cathode comprising $AgBiO_3$ and at least 50% by weight of a second cathode active material selected from the group consisting of manganese dioxide and nickel oxyhydroxide;

an anode;

a separator between the cathode and the anode; and

an alkaline electrolyte.

54. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 53, wherein the $AgBiO_3$ comprises an electrically conductive portion.

55. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 54, wherein the electrically conductive portion is an electrically conductive surface coating comprising carbon or a metal oxide.

56. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 55, wherein the electrically conductive surface coating comprises a material selected from the group consisting of graphite, carbon black, acetylene black, cobalt oxide, cobalt oxyhydroxide, silver oxide, silver nickel oxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, and indium oxide.

57. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 53, wherein the anode comprises zinc.

58. (Previously Presented) A primary battery, comprising:

a cathode comprising

at least 30% of $AgBiO_3$ by weight, and

an electrochemically active cathode material different from $AgBiO_3$;

an anode;

a separator between the cathode and the anode; and

an alkaline electrolyte.

59. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 58, wherein the $AgBiO_3$ comprises an electrically conductive portion.

60. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 59, wherein the electrically conductive portion is an electrically conductive surface coating comprising carbon or a metal oxide.

61. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 60, wherein the electrically conductive surface coating comprises a material selected from the group consisting of graphite, carbon black, acetylene black, cobalt oxide, cobalt oxyhydroxide, silver oxide, silver nickel oxide, nickel oxyhydroxide, and indium oxide.

62. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 22, wherein the anode comprises zinc.

63. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 58, wherein the cathode comprises at least 40% of $AgBiO_3$ by weight.